

The earliest human inhabitants in the Salmon River Canyon were Native Americans who lived there over 11,000 years ago. Archaeologists found projectile points of the Western Stemmed Tradition associated with radiocarbon dates of 11,370 and 11,410 ¹⁴C years BP. Work will continue at Cooper's Ferry in 2011 to learn more about how people lived in the Salmon River Canyon and adapted to the environment during the late Pleistocene.



COPER'S FERRY

IDAHO ARCHAEOLOGY and HISTORIC PRESERVATION MONTH

Sponsors: Idaho State Historical Society, Bureau of Land Management, Bureau of Reclamation, Idaho Heritage Trust, Idaho Transportation Department, Boise National Forest, Caribou-Targhee National Forest, Idaho Power Company, SAIC, Sagebrush Consultants, SWCA, Inc., and Geo-Marine, Inc.

For more information about Idaho Archaeology and Historic Preservation Month contact the Idaho State Historical Society at 208-334-3847or check the web page: www.history.idaho.gov

Photographs courtesy of Loren Davis, Oregon State University, Idaho State Museum of Natural History, Suzann Henrikson; Folsom point drawing by James Woods; poster design by Tara Mayberry, Boise State Printing and Graphic Services; additional assistance from Mary Anne Davis, David Sisson, and SHPO staff.



This Folsom point, unearthed in Owl Cave in 1977, tested positive for trace amounts of elephant blood. This indicates that terminal Pleistocene peoples of southern Idaho successfully hunted mammoth. Owl Cave is the only known mammoth kill site in the Intermountain West.